

REMARKS

The present amendment is in response to the Office Action mailed November 5, 2009, in which Claims 1 – 5, 11 and 21 - 33 were rejected.

Independent Claim 1 is amended herein. Claims 24 – 33 are cancelled herein, Claims 6 – 10 and 12 - 20 having been previously cancelled. New Claims 34 – 45 are added. Accordingly, Claims 1 – 5, 11 and 34 - 45 are pending.

All changes made are for clarification and are based on the application as originally filed. It is respectfully submitted that no new matter is added.

Favorable reconsideration is respectfully requested.

INTERVIEW

The undersigned attorney of record and Inventor Y. Xiao wish to express their appreciation for the courtesies extended them by the Examiner during the recent interview. The claims, specification, figures and prior art were all discussed and the suggestions and observations made by the Examiner were very much appreciated.

SPECIFICATION AMENDMENTS

The Specification was amended to (1) incorporate by reference three papers [attached hereto as Attachment – A, Attachment – B, and Attachment – C] which provide definitions for “A Box,” “C Box,” “D Box,” and “IE” (“box” of Attachment – A and “block” of Attachments – B and – C being used interchangeably) and to (2) insert sequence numbers for reference purposes.

Applicants respectfully submit that no new matter has been added by these amendments to the specification.

CLAIM AMENDMENTS, ADDITIONS AND CANCELLATIONS

Independent Claim 1 is amended for clarification to define the “one or more essential elements” as including a D Box, an A Box, an Intermediate Element (“IE”), and a C Box and to further specify that an oligonucleotide is

positioned between the D Box and the A Box and that the oligonucleotide excludes 5 Ts.

New Claims 34 through 38 are based on Figure 1 and the associated description as originally filed.

New Claims 39 through 45 are based on Figure 4 and the associated description as originally filed.

Claims 24 – 33 are cancelled without prejudice

Applicants respectfully submit that no new matter has been added by these changes.

CLAIM REJECTIONS – 35 USC SECTION 103(a)

The Examiner rejected Claims 1 – 5, 11 and 21 – 33 under 35 USC Section 103(a) as being unpatentable over Thompson and Jennings *et al.*, the combination in view of Fire *et al.*, Tuschl *et al.*, and Moyer *et al.*

Applicants respectfully traverse these rejections.

As set forth in the accompanying Declaration, the teachings of these references, whether taken alone or in combination, fail to teach, suggest, or otherwise render obvious the invention as claimed herein. The accompanying Declaration sets forth how the discovery embodied in the invention as claimed was unexpected.

Reconsideration and withdrawal of these rejections are respectfully requested.

ENTRY OF AMENDMENT AFTER FINAL

Applicants respectfully request that the present **Amendment After Final** be entered insofar as it is believed to place the application in condition for allowance or narrows the outstanding issues of the present application.

CONCLUSION

For the reasons stated above, Claims 1 – 5, 11 and 21 – 33 are now believed to be in condition for allowance. Applicants respectfully request

withdrawal of the pending rejections and allowance of the claims. If any issues remain that would prevent issuance of this application, the Examiner is urged to contact the undersigned – 202-639-5622 or tmoga@shb.com (such communication via e-mail is herein expressly granted) – to resolve any remaining problems. It is believed that no fee is due, however, the Commissioner is hereby authorized to charge any amount required to Deposit Account No. 19-2112.

Respectfully submitted,
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Dated: **October 5, 2010**

TTM/hs

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